

# OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH

837 Bartlett Road • Harborcreek, PA 16421 • [www.ourladyofmercychurch.org](http://www.ourladyofmercychurch.org)



## November 1, 2020 - All Saints

### MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday and Weekend Mass has resumed with the following schedule and covid-19 protocols in place:

Saturday Vigil: 6:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Weekday: 8:30 a.m.

### PARISH STAFF

Msgr. Gerald T. Ritchie, *Pastor*

Donna Clark, *Pastoral Minister*

Irene Lucas, *Director of Lifelong Faith Formation*

Brandon Vogt, *Director of Liturgy & Music*

Katie Stephenson, *Administrative Assistant*

Sarah Phipps, *Youth Minister*

Kirk Mientkiewicz, *Maintenance Coordinator*

Andrea Maille, *Lifelong Faith Formation Secretary*

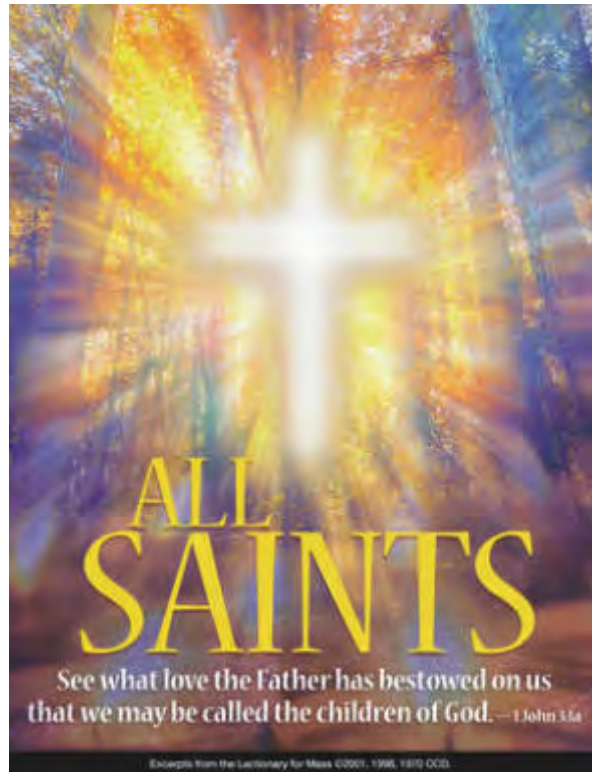
### CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office: 814-899-5342

Office of Lifelong Faith Formation: 814-899-6132

Fax: 814-898-3306

Email: [info@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:info@ourladyofmercychurch.org)



### MISSION STATEMENT

*We are a Eucharistic, Catholic Christian Community of Communities formed by the Word of God and the teachings of the Church. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit to live the values of Jesus Christ in a prayerful, welcoming and nurturing environment.*

## THE WEEK AHEAD

For a complete calendar of events, please visit [ourladyofmercychurch.org/calendar](http://ourladyofmercychurch.org/calendar)

<b>Mon. 11/02</b>	9:00 a.m.	Quilters
	9:30 a.m.	Steel Magnolias SCC
	7:00 p.m.	Pastoral Facilitator Mtg.
<b>Tue. 11/03</b>	2:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
	7:00 p.m.	Pastoral Council
<b>Wed. 11/04</b>	1:00 p.m.	Diamonds in the Rough SCC
<b>Thur. 11/05</b>	9:15 a.m.	Painting Class
	9:30 a.m.	Potter's Clay SCC
	6:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
<b>Fri. 11/06</b>		
<b>Sat. 11/07</b>	<b>Gr. 9 Rite of Acceptance - All Masses</b>	
	4:30 p.m.	Sacrament of Penance
<b>Sun. 11/08</b>	<b>Gr. 9 Rite of Acceptance - All Masses</b>	
	9:45 a.m.	Religious Ed Gr. K-8
	9:45 a.m.	First Eucharist Parent Mtg.

## PRAYER LINE

9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
Call Donna Smicker at 899-9108  
4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.  
Call Gerri Extein at 490-9681



## We Remember...

Louis Spizarny, father of Rose Kobel and Denny Hodges, Sr., brother of Charlene DeDionisio, who passed away recently.



Please hold them and their families in prayer during this difficult time.

## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Mon. 11/02</b>	8:30 a.m.	For Deceased Parishioners
<b>Tue. 11/03</b>	8:30 a.m.	Steven Joseph Apa (Family)
<b>Wed. 11/04</b>	8:30 a.m.	Dennis Hodges Sr.
<b>Thur. 11/05</b>	8:30 a.m.	Don McCurdy (Margaret McCurdy & Family)
<b>Fri. 11/06</b>	8:30 a.m.	Jerry Wieczorek
<b>Sat. 11/07</b>	8:30 a.m.	<del>No Mass</del>
	6:00 p.m.	Leo Ignasiak (Family)
<b>Sun. 11/08</b>	8:30 a.m.	For the People of OLM
	11:00 a.m.	Special Intention for the 50th Anniversary of Francis & Denise Mehlmann (Laura, John & Mark)

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Offertory for the weekend of October 25, 2020

Envelopes sent:	392	
Envelopes returned:	52	\$3,109.00
Faith Direct Deposits:	133	\$3,432.70
Loose Change:		\$ 86.00
<b>TOTAL OFFERTORY:</b>		<b>\$6,627.70</b>

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

<b>Mon. 11/02</b>	Wis 3:1-9 / Rom 6:3-9 / Jn 6:37-40
<b>Tue. 11/03</b>	Phil 2:5-11 / Lk 14:15-24
<b>Wed. 11/04</b>	Phil 2:12-18 / Lk 14:25-33
<b>Thur. 11/05</b>	Phil 3:3-8a / Lk 15:1-10
<b>Fri. 11/06</b>	Phil 3:17-4:1 / Lk 16:1-8
<b>Sat. 11/07</b>	Phil 4:10-19 / Lk 16:9-15
<b>Sun. 11/08</b>	Wis 6:12-16 / 1 Thes 4:13-18 / Mt 25:1-13



## THIS SUNDAY'S REFLECTION



### MATTHEW 5:1-12

Every year the Church recalls the example, witness, and prayer of the holy women and men who have been identified by the Church as Saints. These saints are more than just role models; they are family members with whom we continue to share relation, in a bond of prayer, called the Communion of Saints. Every year when we celebrate this day, the Gospel we proclaim recalls for us Jesus' teaching about happiness, the Beatitudes. We quickly note in this reading that none of those Jesus names as "blessed" or "happy" are expected . . . the poor in spirit, the meek, the persecuted. Jesus' blueprint for happiness reflects little of what the world might call happiness.

What does Jesus mean when he uses the word "blessed?" This word is sometimes translated as "happy" or "fortunate" or "favored." In other words, Jesus is saying that divine favor is upon those who are poor, who mourn, who are persecuted. This might have been welcome and surprising news to the crowds who heard Jesus that day.

The Beatitudes can be understood as a framework for Christian living. Because of this, it is natural that we proclaim this Gospel on the Feast of All Saints. Saints are people who lived the spirit of the Beatitudes as Jesus lived. On this day, we too are challenged to model our lives on the spirit and promises of the Beatitudes.

### First Eucharist Parent Meeting

There will be an important meeting for parents with children beginning the preparation process for First Eucharist. The meeting will take place next Sunday, Nov. 8 at 12:15 in the large classroom.



### Newsletter Mailing Party



We will be folding the newsletter and stuffing envelopes at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 9 in Sperry Hall. If you can lend a hand, contact Irene at 899-6132 or [ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:ilucas@ourladyofmercychurch.org). Wear your mask.

### OLM Book Group

Join us on Wednesday, Nov. 18, at the home of Kay Kaerberlein, 190 Kraus Dr. to discuss In An Instant by Suzanne Redfearn. In December we will gather for a movie. For those who want to read ahead, our January title will be The Hummingbird's Daughter by Luis Alberto Urrea



### Scrip Coordinator Needed.

After many years Peggy Jacquell is retiring as our scrip coordinator. The job involves keeping a small supply of different cards in stock and ordering more as needed; manage the "shop-with-scrip" account and validate online orders. One needs to be comfortable with managing an online account. If you are interested in the position, please contact Donna Clark.



### Daily Devotional

Do you use a daily devotional that you found helpful over the past seven months? Is it an e mail that you get each day from some organization? A book you read from each day? A website that you visit regularly? Share that resource with us so we can share that with others. Send thoughts and Ideas to Donna Clark 899-5342 or [dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org](mailto:dclark@ourladyofmercychurch.org)



### OLM Wreath

Two hand-made wreaths donated by Marty Eisert are being raffled and the proceeds donated for the livestream equipment costs. Chances are \$2.00 each or 3 chances for \$5.00. In addition people can order a personalized wreath from Marty at a discounted price and she will donate 10% of the sale to the church. Contact Marty at: [eiserthaus@roadrunner.com](mailto:eiserthaus@roadrunner.com) No email? Call Donna in the Parish Office.



### Ink Jet Fundraiser

Please donate used black or color ink jet cartridges to the Religious Education ministry. Previously refilled and remanufactured cartridges can not be redeemed, nor can laser toner cartridges.



## FORMED.ORG



If you are new to the parish subscription, you can enjoy formed.org for free by signing up as part of the parish subscription. All you need is your email, then select the option for an "institution or parish" subscription and search for Our Lady of Mercy Harborcreek.

### Backpack Food Program



The Backpack Food Program started at Clark Elementary this month is off to a great start. There are over 50 volunteers to help with the food packing. Enthusiasm is high and the community of volunteers, working out of South Harborcreek United

Methodist desires to start the program in the other two Harborcreek Elementary Schools. Starting these programs requires funding. Since the National Honor Society is running a food drive to collect the food for the annual thanksgiving dinners we will not be putting out a shopping list for thanksgiving dinners. Instead, we are asking our local church community members to make a donation to fund the new Backpack programs. If you would like to donate, please make checks payable to Our Lady of Mercy and mark it for the backpack program.

### Face-to-face appointments now available at St. Martin Center

St. Martin Center, 1701 Parade St., Erie, is re-opening for face-to-face appointments on a limited basis. A scheduled appointment is necessary. Please call 814-452-6113. Masks are required and safety procedures will be followed. St Martin's Center offers rent, mortgage and utility assistance, food, Housing and Financial counseling, and the Bishop's breakfast program. Although St Martin's cannot accept physical donations at this time they are accepting monetary donations.



### A Family Perspective



Anyone can be "saint" in front of strangers but the daily acts of patience, acceptance, forgiveness, listening, and dying to oneself within the family are religious acts. Family life is the turf of sanctity.

### Domestic Violence Support

Do you know someone who is living through domestic violence? You can help. Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline for resources and support 800-799-SAFE (7233) {TTY 800-787-3224} or find help on line at [thehotline.org](http://thehotline.org).



# FORMED


PICK OF THE WEEK

November 1, 2020

LEARN

**SYMBOLON: KNOWING THE FAITH, SESSION 9: MARY AND THE SAINTS**  
 This week, journey through the Church's teaching on Mary and the saints as we celebrate All Saints Day and discover the beauty and breadth of God's plan for salvation.





## Child Protection and Creating Safe Environments

November is National Homeless Youth Awareness Month

We consider our homes to be safe places for our children, but up to 2.5 million US youth experience homelessness every year. 50,000 youth sleep on the streets for six months or more each year. One of the main causes of youth homelessness is family instability, which includes child abuse and/or neglect, domestic violence, parental substance abuse and family conflict. The website of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network ([www.nctsn.org](http://www.nctsn.org)) offers information on a range of child safety topics. Visit <https://www.eriecd.org/childprotection/> for additional resources on recognizing and reporting suspected child abuse.


## WAYS TO GIVE THIS SEASON

### CHRISTMAS CARING TREE PROGRAM

The Ella Cochran Food Pantry's "Christmas Caring Tree" will be on display the weekend of **November 14th and 15th**. If you would like to brighten a child's or Senior's Christmas, please take a name from the tree and return a wrapped gift by **December 5th and 6th**. If you cannot come in person to pick up a tag, please call the Parish Office at 899-5342.

### Operation Assisting Santa

If you would like to help the children of needy veterans, the children's gift cards will be available the weekend of **Nov 14/15**. Unwrapped gifts need to be returned by **December 6**. If you cannot come in person to pick up a card please contact **Janet Smith at 814-899-5495 or [refereesmith@roadrunner.com](mailto:refereesmith@roadrunner.com)** Or **Moochie Zielewski at 814-823-6505 or [mzielewski999@hotmail.com](mailto:mzielewski999@hotmail.com)**



## Social Justice

As we enter the holiday season, we become more aware of our many blessings and of those who are in need in our community. Many people are inspired to give to those most in need at this time. Here are some local groups that are assisting those who struggle to meet their basic needs.

**St. Martin Center**  
 1701 Parade St.  
 Erie, PA 16503  
<https://www.stmartincenter.org/homepage-gift.html>  
 Provides housing and utility assistance, emergency food and low-income child care

**Second Harvest Food Bank of N.W. PA.**  
 1507 Grimm Dr.  
 Erie, PA 16501  
<https://nwpafoodbank.org/>  
 Supplies local food pantries in 11 counties of northwestern PA with food as well as providing direct emergency food to those in need. Every dollar donated provides 6 meals.

**Boys & Girls Club of Erie**  
 1515 East Lake Rd.  
 Erie, PA 16511

<http://www.eriebgc.com/donate>  
 Provides educational, social, emotional athletic, artistic and health screening services in a safe haven to at risk youth.

**Greater Erie Area Habitat For Humanity**  
 4922 Pittsburgh Ave. 16509  
<http://habitat.erie.org/support-for-habitat/donate/>  
 Enables low income families to achieve home ownership by bringing together volunteers and the family to build simple homes that are affordable.

**Emmaus Ministries**  
 345 East 9<sup>th</sup> St.  
 Erie, PA 16503  
[www.eriebenedictines.org/emmaus](http://www.eriebenedictines.org/emmaus)  
 A soup kitchen, food pantry, after school children's program are among the ministries serving those in need in the City of Erie.

**Community Shelter Services**  
 655 West 16<sup>th</sup> St.  
 Erie, PA 1650  
<https://www.eriecommunityfoundation.org/donors/give-today/give-to-a-nonprofit/community-shelter-services>  
 Supports those who are homeless or are in danger of homelessness through temporary, transitional and permanent housing, through referrals and advocacy.

# November



## Happy Birthday!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Delaney Andrews-11 Kiersten Redford-15	3 Connor Marshall-16	4 Baileigh Bleil-16	5	6	7 Kylie Rupp-18
8	9	10	11 Jazmyn McGerl-11	12	13	14 Mitchel DeVore-17
15	16 Megan Smith-18	17 Addison Matusiak-11	18	19	20 Carson Shamburg-5 Makayla Inthavong-8	21 Maximo Coletta-14
22 Connor Kelly-6	23	24 Kara Sutton-18	25	26 Triston Barber-6 Dominic Coletta-17	27	28 
29	30					

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